

ABSTRACT

[67] The invention relates to the feeding of analyte ions, generated at atmospheric pressure, efficiently into the mass spectrometer. The invention provides a lengthy ion mobility drift tube with a focusing electric field inside to guide the ions from an ionization cloud generated at atmospheric pressure towards the entrance opening of the mass spectrometer, and to dry droplets which might occur in the ionization cloud by a hot drying gas flowing through the ion mobility drift tube towards the ionization cloud.